



State of Utah

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Drug Court/Drug Board Pilot Program

Annual Report to the Utah Legislature, October 2005

Drug Courts and Drug Boards offer nonviolent, drug abusing offenders intensive court-supervised drug treatment as an alternative to jail or prison. This Annual Report, required by §63-97-201 of the Utah Code, summarizes the activities of Utah's 32 Drug Court and Drug Board Programs. The Department of Human Services provides funding for 16 Drug Court and 2 Drug Board programs. The creation of the Drug Court Program, definitions and criteria for participation, are found in §78-3-32 of the Utah Code.

Are Drug Courts Effective?

Drug Courts are the most successful model for treating chronic, substance-abusing offenders. Drug Courts significantly reduce substance use and criminal behavior (Belenko, 1998, 2001). "To put it bluntly, we know that drug courts outperform virtually all other strategies that have been attempted for drug-involved offenders" (Marlowe, DeMatteo, & Festinger, 2003).

Drug Courts are also proving to be of great value in treating offenders addicted to methamphetamine. Treatment of methamphetamine users requires specific strategies designed to engage users and retain them for a clinically significant period of time. Drug Courts accomplish these goals by reinforcing positive behavior (e.g., attendance and drug free urine samples) and punishing (e.g., jail) negative behaviors (e.g., continued drug use). Participants are involved in treatment an average of 347 days. In comparison, national studies have found that 50% of referrals from the criminal justice system never appear at treatment, despite being ordered to do so (Marlowe, DeMatteo, & Festinger, 2003).

Data collected by DHS shows that Drug Court:

Participation is Growing

- Thirty-two Drug Courts are now operating in Utah
- Over 5,000 Utahans have participated, or are currently participating in a Drug Court
- Over 3,000 Utahans have graduated from a Drug Court
- Sixty-one percent of participants graduate
- Next year, 2,300 Utahans will participate in Drug Court
- Participants are involved an average of 347 days (Graduates= 389, Unsuccessful Participants = 274)

Increases Employment Rates

- Statewide, between admission and discharge, employment rates for Adult Drug Court participants rise 14%
- In Uintah County, 96% of participants are employed

Decreases Substance Use

- Eighty-nine percent of all participants report decreased drug use
- Arrests for drug related offenses decline by 49%
- Over 90% of drug tests conducted in Felony Drug Court are negative

Reduces Recidivism

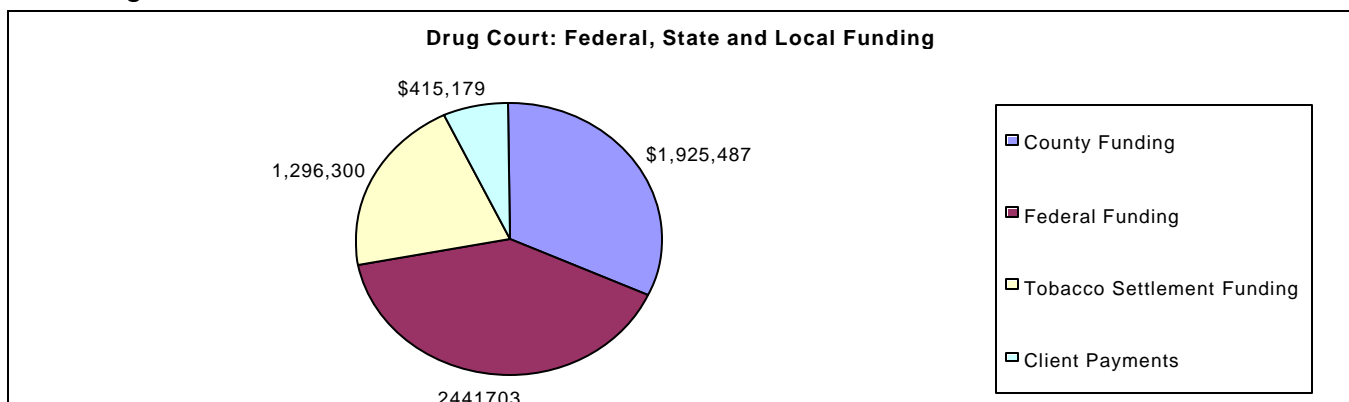
- Arrests for any level of offense decline by 39%
- Arrests for drug related offenses decline by 49%
- Six months prior to involvement, participants report an average of 1.9 arrests
- Seventy-eight percent of participants report zero arrests while in Drug Court

Appropriations

Senate Bill 15, *Use of Tobacco Settlement Revenues*, passed during the 2000 Legislative General Session. This bill appropriated a total of \$1,647,200 to the Department of Human Services (DHS), allocating \$1,296,300 for statewide expansion of the Drug Court Program and \$350,900 for a Drug Board Pilot Program. The Drug Court Allocation Council, created by §78-3-32 of the Utah Code, reviewed requests for funds and dispensed \$1,647,200 in awards to start, expand or continue Drug Court/Drug Board operations. Another \$352,800 is appropriated to the Courts, Department of Corrections and the Board of Pardons for administrative costs. A summary of DHS funding for Drug Court is found in the chart below:

Drug Court Funding	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Tobacco Settlement Funding	\$1,296,300	\$1,296,300	\$1,296,300	\$1,296,300	\$1,296,300	\$1,296,300
SAPT Block Grant Funding	\$462,387	\$598,451	\$598,451	\$1,079,703	\$1,199,703	\$1,150,639
Total Funding	\$1,758,687	\$1,894,751	\$1,894,751	\$2,376,003	\$2,496,003	\$2,446,939

In addition to this funding, federal grant programs and county dollars are also used to support Drug Court. County funding for Drug Court has grown considerably since 2001. Through its budgeting process, DHS gathers revenue information for the 18 programs receiving tobacco settlement dollars. The following chart projects the mix of County, Federal and State funding for Utah Drug Courts:



The chart below shows DHS funding for each Drug Court for 2005:

DHS DRUG COURT FUNDING 2001-2006		
JUDICIAL DISTRICT	DRUG COURT	2006
First District	Bear River / First District Drug Court	\$125,000
	TOTAL	\$125,000
Second District	Davis County Drug Board	\$116,667
	Davis County Family Drug Court	\$0
	Davis County Juvenile Drug Court	\$0
	Davis County Felony Drug Court	\$250,000
	Weber County Drug Board	\$233,900
	Weber County Felony Drug Court	\$250,000
	Weber Juvenile Drug Court	\$0
	Weber Child Protection Drug Court	\$80,000
	TOTAL	\$930,567
Third District	Taylorsville Drug Court	\$0
	Holladay Drug Court	\$0
	Salt Lake County Misdemeanor Drug Court	\$0
	Salt Lake City Misdemeanor Drug Court	\$0
	Salt Lake County Felony Drug Court	\$250,000
	Third District Juvenile Drug Court	\$63,372
	Third District Dependency Drug Court	\$105,000
	Tooele County Juvenile Drug Court	\$32,000
	Tooele County Felony Drug Court	\$0
	TOTAL	\$450,372
Fourth District	Utah County Dependency Drug Court	\$125,000
	Utah County Juvenile Drug Court	\$75,000
	Utah County Adult Felony Drug Court	\$200,000
	Wasatch County Felony Drug Court	\$36,000
	TOTAL	\$436,000
Fifth District	Washington County Family Drug Court	\$0
	Washington County Felony Drug Court	\$120,000
	TOTAL	\$120,000
Sixth District	Sevier County Felony Drug Court	\$65,000
	Millard County Felony Drug Court	\$0
	Sanpete County Felony Drug Court	\$0
	TOTAL	\$65,000
Seventh District	Grand County Family Drug Court	\$40,000
	Emery County Drug Court	\$160,000
	TOTAL	\$200,000
Eighth District	Uintah County / Eighth District Drug Court	\$120,000
	TOTAL	\$120,000
STATE TOTAL		\$2,446,939

What Do Drug Courts Require of Participants?

Drug Court participants undergo long-term, judicially monitored treatment and counseling, and must appear before the Judge every week. The Drug Court Judge has the authority to impose sanctions and incentives. Successful completion of the treatment program results in dismissal of criminal charges, reduced or set aside sentences, or reduced probation time.

Adult Felony Drug Courts: Utah has fourteen functioning Adult Drug Courts, located in Box Elder, Cache, Carbon, Davis, Emery, Millard, Salt Lake, Sanpete, Sevier, Tooele, Uintah, Utah,

Washington, and Weber counties. Juab County is currently planning to implement a Felony Drug Court.

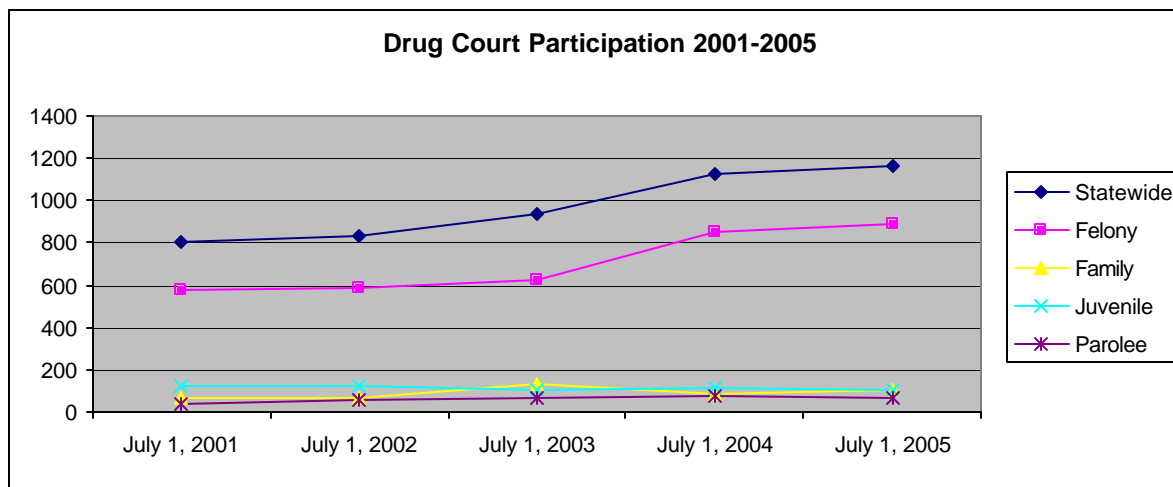
Juvenile Drug Courts: Utah has five Juvenile Drug Courts located in Weber, Davis, Salt Lake, Tooele and Utah Counties. Juvenile Drug Courts provide individually tailored and developmentally appropriate treatment to substance-using offenders. Juvenile Drug Courts use a comprehensive approach that involves the neighborhood, schools and other community stakeholders.

Dependency Drug Courts: Six Family/Dependency Drug Courts operate in Utah. These programs are located in Davis, Grand, Salt Lake, Utah, Weber and Washington Counties. Dependency Drug Courts focus on parents whose substance use could result in loss or restriction of parental rights.

Drug Board: Created to address substance-abusing parolees within the state prison system. A hearing officer from the Board of Pardons and Parole conducts weekly reviews. Davis County and Weber County currently operate Drug Board programs.

Caseload Growth

Drug Courts have grown every year since the pilot's inception. Since 2001, participation in Felony Drug Courts has led to overall growth. However, a lack of funding has prevented Family, Juvenile and Parolee Drug Court models from growing at the same pace as Felony Drug Courts. DHS funding now reaches only 16 of 32 existing Drug Courts. Many of the programs that do not receive funding from DHS are unable to provide adequate treatment, case management and drug testing services.



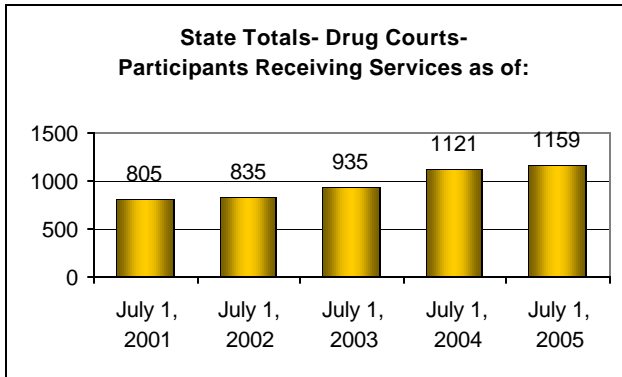
For additional information about Utah's Drug Courts, contact:

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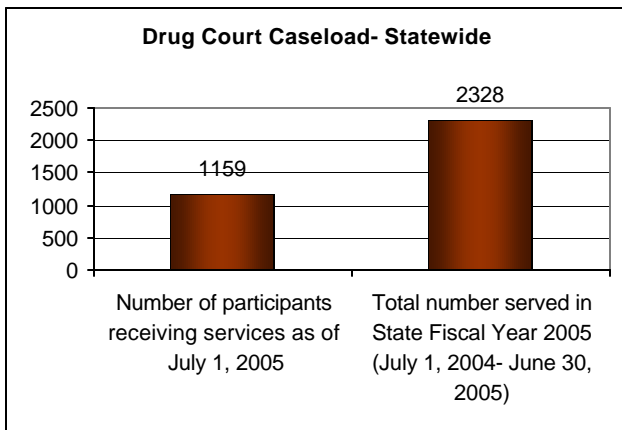
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Statewide Drug Court Statistics

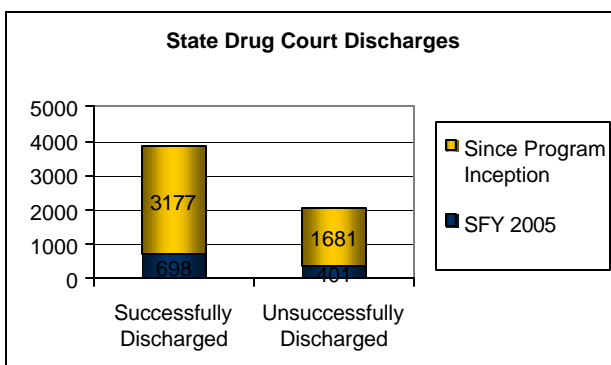
Overall, participation in Drug Court is growing. Since 2001, participation has grown by 56%.



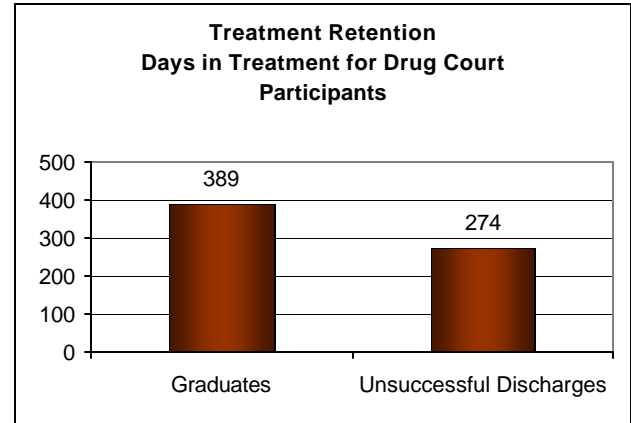
In State Fiscal Year 2005, 2338 individuals received services through a Drug Court.



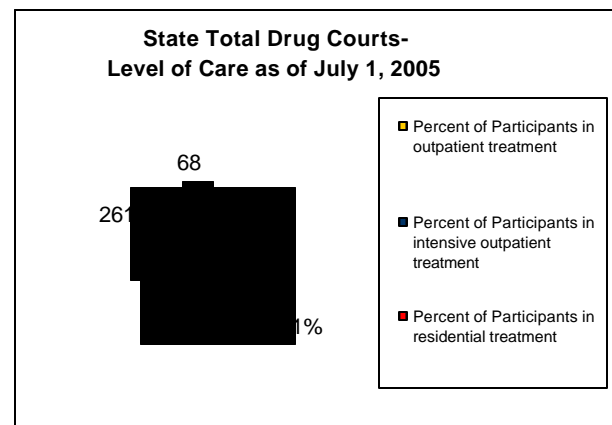
Sixty-one percent of participants complete Drug Court successfully. This compares well to treatment outcomes for all populations. Given the program length, strict supervision and chronicity of the target population, the result is outstanding.



Drug Court retains offenders in treatment. The research suggests that retention is the most critical factor in successful outcomes (Marlowe, DeMatteo, & Festinger, 2003).



Seventy-one percent of participants are treated at the outpatient level. In traditional programs, offenders are often placed at higher levels of care due to concerns about public safety. This can be five times as expensive as outpatient care.



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